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USDEL JEC PARIS
USLO PEKING
USSAG NAKHON PHANOM
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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1. MCARTHUR OF LAT (PHINQ) REPORTS FROM SAIGON THAT SERIOUS CLASHES CONTINUE BETWEEN KI AND VC/NVA IN CAMBODIA. QUOTES UNIDENTIFIED SAIGON OFFICIAL SOURCES THAT IMMEDIATE CAUSE IS SEVERE RICE SHORTAGE, AND JOINT COMMAND STRUCTURE IS NEAR BREAKDOWN. KI INABILITY TO CAPTURE KOMPONG CHAM ADDED TO GROWING HANOI-PEKING-SIHANOUK 3-WAY SPLIT, AND THESE RIFTS ALL FAVOR LON NOL'S "SHAKY AND MYSTIC" REGIME.

2. GKR SAYS INTERCEPTED BROADCASTS INDICATE THAT 2000-MAN KI FORCE WITH VC OFFICERS MOVING TOWARD KOMPONG CHAM FROM NORTH. FANK EXPECTS NEW ATTACK AND MOVES IN MORE REINFORCEMENTS (CSM). FANK FACES KI ON 3 FRONTS NEAR PP: AT VIHEAR SUOR, 12 MI. EAST, GKR COLUMN TRIES TO REACH BESIEGED GARRISON; 17 KI REPORTED KILLED IN CLASH 8 MI. SE; AND FANK LAUNCHES COUNTEROFFENSIVE AT KOMPONG TOUL 10 MI. SE ON ROUTE 3 (UPI, NYDN).

3. SIHANOUK'S QUEENMOTHER REMAINS IN HOSPITAL REPORTEDLY IN COMA DUE HEART AILMENT (SEPT. 23); EARLIER STATEMENT BY DOCTORS INDICATED LITTLE HOPE FOR RECOVERY (UPI, NYDN).

4. LON NOL'S SISTER-IN-LAW, MRS. LON NON, CAUGHT TRYING TO SMUGGLE 170,000 DOLLARS FROM PARIS STUFFED INSIDE TOY DOG CARRIED BY HER CHILD AS SHE WAS LEAVING PARIS TO JOIN HUSBAND IN US. SHE LACKED OFFICIAL PERMISSION TO EXPORT THE CASH AND EVIDENCE THAT IT WAS BROUGHT INTO FRANCE LEGALLY. FAMILY SOURCES SAY THEY WERE IGNORANT OF FRENCH FOREIGN-EXCHANGE REGULATIONS; AND FUNDS ARE FOR PERSONAL EXPENSES AND USE OF GKR WASHINGTON EMBASSY (CHITRIB, NYT SERVICE).

5. SHIRLEY EDER (KNIGHT NEWSPAPERS, CHITRIB) UNCLASSIFIED

REPORTS THAT RORY FLYNN IN LONDON INSISTS HER MIA-IN-INDOCHINA BROTHER SEAN (ERROL'S SON) IS ACTUALLY ALIVE AND WELL IN PARIS WRITING A BOOK ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES.

6. GVN HIGH COMMAND SAYS THERE WERE 91 C-F VIOLATIONS FOR 36-HOUR PERIOD ENDING SUNDAY MIDNIGHT, 23 MORE THAN PREVIOUS 24 HOURS. IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH MORE VIOLATIONS DURING SEPT. THAN AUG., CASUALTY RATE WAS DOWN (97 FOR SEPT. AND 159 FOR AUG.) (NYDN). (AM PRESS DOES NOT CARRY LATE REPORTS OF OVERRUNNING OF RANGER BASE AT PLEI DJERANG).

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7. CSM COVERS GVN RELEASE OF 4 POLITICAL DISSIDENTS IN ACTION APPARENTLY TIMED TO OFFSET RISING US CONGRESSIONAL ATTACKS ON AMERICAN AID FOR GVN'S POLICE AND PRISONS. THE THREE LABOR LEADERS REPORTEDLY WERE ALSO RELEASED BECAUSE OF PRESSURE OF AMERICAN AFL-CIO. (SIMILAR TO LONGER REPORTS IN SUNDAY PAPERS).

8. CLARITY (NYT) REPORTS THAT FM DUC, IN INTERVIEW AT PLAZA HOTEL, DEFENDS GVN AGAINST REPORTS THAT IT WAS CORRUPT AND REPRESSIVE BY ASSAILING PRESS IN FREE COUNTRIES FOR "HAVING BEEN IN A NUMBER OF INSTANCES RATHER UNFAIR TO US. . . WE ARE NOT A PERFECT SOCIETY, BUT WE HAVE NO MONOPOLY ON CORRUPTION AND WE DON'T CONDONE CORRUPTION". ADDS SAIGON UNDER MARTIAL LAW FOR SECURITY. "THERE HAVE TO BE SOME RESTRICTIONS TO DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES. WE MAKE NO SECRET OF IT AND NO APOLOGY FOR IT."

JAPAN

9. CSM'S POND, IN TOKYO, NOTES "STRIKING CONTRAST" BETWEEN "SMALL STIR" OCCASIONED THERE BY NORMALIZATION OF GOJ-DRV RELATIONS AND GENERAL EXCITEMENT WHEN TOKYO RECOGNIZED PEKING. EXCEPT FOR INTEREST IN KIM DAE JUNG CASE, FOREIGN-POLICY ISSUES HAVE FADED FROM JAPANESE PRESS.

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10. ONLY 2 DAYS AFTER OPENING OF GOJ-NVN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, NHAN DAN CRITICIZES JAPAN FOR FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE PRG (WP).

11. IGNORING LOWER COURT DECISION THAT JSDF IS UNCONSTI-TUTIONAL, PARLIAMENT APPROVES BILL FOR 6,988-MAN INCREASE IN JSDF AND ANOTHER CREATING OKINAWA-BASED AIR WING, AND PROVIDING INCREASE OF 3,300 RESERVISTS (AP NYT, NYDN).

12. PEPPER (SUN), IN TOKYO, SEES TANAKA EMBARKING THIS WEEK ON VISIT TO W. EUROPE AND RUSSIA IN EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN JAPAN'S TIES WITH THESE COUNTRIES AND LESSEN ITS NEAR-EXCLUSIVE RELIANCE ON US. APART FROM DISCUSSIONS OF US-SUGGESTED "DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES" AMONG INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES, TANAKA EXPECTED TO TALK WITH HIS EUROPEAN HOSTS ABOUT JAPAN'S VIEW OF ASIA, TRADE, MULTILATERAL CO-OPERATION IN ENERGY AND AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. EXPECTED THAT TANAKA'S WILLINGNESS EVEN TO HEAR SOVIET PLANS FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE-SECURITY PLAN MAY GIVE JAPAN BADLY-NEEDED LEVERAGE ON QUESTION OF DISPUTED NORTHERN

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ISLANDS.

13. GLOBE'S SNOW (SEPT. 21), IN YOSHIOKA, DESCRIBES CONSTRUCTION OF 33-MILE UNDER-SEA TUNNEL LINKING HONSHU AND HOKKAIDO. MOST MODERN US, JAPANESE AND EUROPEAN MACHINES AVAILABLE BEING USED. SCHEDULED FOR 1979 COMPLETION, TRAIN LINK WILL CUT TOKYO-SAPPORO TIME FROM PRESENT 17 HOURS TO LESS THAN 6.

14. JOC'S WELS REPORTS FORUM ON JAPAN SPONSORED LAST WEEK BY MANUFACTURERS HANOVER TRUST CO., ADDRESSED BY LONG-TERM CREDIT BANK OF JAPAN BOARD CHAIRMAN, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AFFAIRS FOR MITI, PRES. OF MITSUI & CO. (USA), MITSUBISHI EXECUTIVE VICE-PRES. AND OTHER HIGH-LEVEL BUSINESS LEADERS. FORUM HEARD THAT SINGAPORE'S CAPACITY AS FINANCIAL MARKET FOR SEASIA MAY HAVE REACHED LIMIT AND TOKYO WILL NOW EMERGE AS MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CENTER. JAPAN IS RECOGNIZING THAT IT HAS IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY
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IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND AS SOURCE OF CAPITAL FOR MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. SUCH FIRMS, HOWEVER, AREN'T PREPARED MAKE MAJOR DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN US, DESPITE CONSIDERABLE OFFICIAL ENCOURAGEMENT FROM WASHINGTON; NOR IS JAPANESE PUBLIC FULLY AWARE OF INVESTMENT POTENTIAL IN US EQUITIES.

CHINA

15. WRITING IN SUNDAY LONDON TIMES, NEVILLE MAXWELL REPORTS THAT AS FIRST WESTERNER TO VISIT SCENE, HE FOUND 1969 SINO-SOVIET BORDER CLASHES ENDED WITH PRC IN FIRM CONTROL OF DISPUTED ISLAND TERRITORY OF CHENPAO. MAXWELL OBTAINED DETAILED ACCOUNTS FROM CHINESE INVOLVED IN FIGHTING AND SPOKE TO LOCAL FISHERMEN AND TO PLA. ADDS THAT SOVIET MILITARY POWER IS "DEMONSTRABLY EVIDENT" FROM CHINESE SIDE ALONG EASTERN USSURI BORDERS (AP CHITRIB, WP).

16. AIR FRANCE BEGAN TWICE-WEEKLY PARIS-PEKING SERVICE SEPT. 6, WEEK BEFORE POMPIDOU VISIT TO CHINA. AIR FRANCE WISHES SERVICE EXTENDED TO TOKYO; BUT JAL IS AFTER SAMETOKYO-PEKING ROUTE, AND PRC OPPOSES IT LONG AS JAPANESE OPERATE SERVICES IN FORMOSA (JOC).

PHILIPPINES

17. GOP ANNOUNCES 700 POLITICAL PRISONERS HAVE BEEN RELEASED FROM DETENTION CENTERS, AMONG THEM JESUS CABARRUS, MARINDUQUE MINING AND INDUSTRIAL CORP. EXECUTIVE WHO WAS LINKED WITH RIGHTIST CONSPIRACY

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TO ASSASSINATE MARCOS (AP SUN, NYDN, WP).

18. GOP ESTABLISHES DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH E. GERMANY (WP).

MALAYSIA

19. GOM OFFICIALS REPORT 28 PROMINENT CITIZENS IN SIBU HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN LAST 3 DAYS FORCOLLABORATING WITH COMMUNIST TERRORISTS; SAY THEY WERE SEIZED UNDER UNCLASSIFIED

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PUBLIC SECURITY REGULATIONS, AND CAN BE HELD WITHOUT TRIAL FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD (AP, NYDN).

BURMA

20. AT PAGAN, NYT'S WEINRAUB REPORTS THAT THOUGH OFFICIAL ENCOURAGEMENT IS SCANT AND THERE IS HOSTILITY BETWEEN BURMESE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AND BUDDHIST MONKS, BUDDHISM IS QUIETLY FLOURISHING IN PAGAN AND MANDALAY AND REMAINS POWERFUL, DEEPLY EMBEDDED FORCE. SUGGESTS GUB'S ECONOMIC POLICIES MAY EVENTUALLY HAVE MORE IMPACT ON MONKS THAN NE WIN'S POLITICAL PROGRAMS. BECAUSE ECONOMY IS IN DISARRAY, MONKS NEAR MANDALAY FIND DAILY ALMS ARE DWINDLING, AND NUMBER OF MONKS BELIEVED TO HAVE DROPPED FROM 15,000 TO 10,000 IN MANDALAY.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

21. WSJ'S KANN, FROM PP, FINDS THAT IN CAMBODIA, "REALISTS ARE PESSIMISTS AND CYNICS PROBABLY ARE PROPHETS" -- "THE PRUDENT REALIST HERE PROBABLY IS THE PESSIMIST WITH PATIENCE." NO DOUBT THAT KHMER SITUATION GENERALLY HAS BEEN MOVING FROM BAD TO WORSE TO EVEN WORSE. MILITARILY, GKR IS ON DEFENSIVE WITH LESS AND LESS TO DEFEND -- AND SINCE AUG. 15, IT HAS HAD LESS TO DEFEND LESS WITH. POLITICALLY, HIGH COUNCIL MEMBERS SPEND MUCH OF THEIR TIME SQUABBLING AMONG THEMSELVES, LIKE FOUR CAPTAINS CONTENDING FOR COMMAND OF LEAKING LIFEBOAT. ECONOMICALLY, COUNTRY IS DISASTER. PERHAPS ONE-FIFTH OF POPULATION HAS FLED BECAUSE OF FIGHTING AND BOMBING; RICE PRODUCTION HAS DECLINED BY ABOUT ONE-THIRD IN PAST FEW YEARS, AND PP PRICES HAVE RISEN BY MORE THAN 150 PERCENT IN PAST YEAR. FROM ABROAD, SIHANOUK MAY APPEAR KEY TO ENDING WAR; BUT FROM PP VANTAGE POINT, WHILE THERE IS NO CERTAINTY ABOUT WHO RUNS KI, THERE IS AGREEMENT IT ISN'T SIHANOUK. WESTERN DIPLOMAT ASKS HOW CAN THERE BE NEGOTIATIONS WHEN ON GOVERNMENT SIDE "THERE'S NOTHING WITH WHICH TO NEGOTIATE", AND ON OTHER SIDE NO ONE TO NEGOTIATE WITH. FANK IS LED BY INEXPERIENCED AND ALL-

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AND SOMETIMES VERY WELL. FRENCH PLANTATIONS CONTINUE EXPORTING RUBBER, DESPITE WAR. BUT WITH EXTERNAL WOUNDS AND INTERNAL AILMENTS, CAMBODIAN PATIENT SHOWS LITTLE INCLINATION TOWARDS EUTHANASIA; "COMATOSE IT MAY BE, BUT A CORPSE IT IS NOT."

22. BROWNE (NYT) HAS A SLIGHTLY LESS BLEAK VIEW ON CAMBODIAN STALEMATE AFTER THREE MONTHS OF FEROCIOUS WARFARE WHICH BLED BOTH SIDES TO POINT OF EXHAUSTION. NOTING RETURN OF FOREIGN DEPENDENTS, HE SENSES GENERAL IMPRESSION THAT PERIOD OF CRITICAL DANGER IS PAST; QUOTES WESTERN DIPLOMAT WHO HAD THOUGHT KI WAS WINNING, BUT NOW SEES NO REASON WHY THE WAR "CAN'T LAST FOREVER". BROWNE NOTES THAT FANK FOUGHT BETTER THAN EVER SINCE BOMBING STOPPED, AND ON BALANCE SEEMS TO HAVE WON MONSOON-SEASON CAMPAIGN. CITES NUMBER OF KI OBJECTIVES NOT REACHED, SUCH AS CAPTURE OR EFFECTIVE SIEGE OF PP, STRANGULATION OF PP SUPPLY LINES, CAPTURE OF ANY PROVINCAL CAPITALS. MOST HORRIFYING ASPECT OF WAR NOW IS ITS VENGEFUL NATURE IN COMBAT; DESPITE EXTENSIVE HAND-TO-HAND FIGHTING, KNOWN CAPTURE OF PRISONERS, VIRTUALLY NO KNOWN PRISONERS ARE ALIVE.

23. ALSOP (WP,SUN) REPORTS HIS SOURCES SAY NEW SOVIET MILITARY LEADERS ARE PRESSING POLITICAL LEADERS FOR "ATOMIC, CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL AND ANY OTHER SORT" OF "PREVENTIVE" ATTACK ON CHINA. SEES US INTELLIGENCE DEEPLY SPLIT BETWEEN THOSE DISCOUNTING SUCH RUSSIAN MILITARY INTENTIONS AND OTHERS WHO HOLD THAT ADVICE OF SOVIET MILITARY MATTERS VERY LITTLE BECAUSE OF COMMUNIST PARTY'S POWER IN USSR. RUSH

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DANANG
HONG KONG
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